

HHH Is Second, McGovern Third

Wallace Leads Popular Vote

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At the Detroit city airport last Friday, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey was asked what impact a Wallace victory in the Michigan primary would have on the Democratic Party.

He said it would serve notice on the nation that the Democrats are "in some

By contrast, among active contenders, Sen. George S. McGovern, the candidate with the biggest pocket of delegate strength for the Democratic National Convention in Miami Beach—362 1/4—has the fewest popular votes to show for it.

Returns from the states that offered a chance to

vote directly for an individual candidate showed:

Wallace	3,295,824
Humphrey	2,548,292
McGovern	2,061,737
Sen. Edmund S.	

Muskie	1,679,740
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Despite that arithmetic, politicians agree, Wallace has no chance of winning

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trouble. It means that we'd have a great division in our party."

Humphrey, it would appear, was putting it mildly.

With 17 of the nation's 24 primaries out of the way, the man with the most popular votes of any candidate for the presidential nomination—Democrat or Republican—lies partially paralyzed in a Silver Spring hospital: the governor of Alabama, George C. Wallace.

Of the active candidates, Wallace not only has won more Democratic primaries than any other contender, but according to nearly complete but unofficial returns, he has also collected nearly 3.3 million votes.

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the nomination. The contest looms at this point as a choice between Humphrey and McGovern with the California primary June 6 being billed as decisive. Both candidates are certain to pass Wallace, who is not on the California ballot, in total popular strength after the voting there.

But so far, neither of the front-running senators has been able to put together the kind of broad constituency that the Democrats need if they are to defeat President Nixon in the fall. Despite a series of virtually uncontested, lackluster GOP primaries, the President has drawn 2,584,506 votes, more than any candidate except Wallace.

Meanwhile, both Hum-

phrey and McGovern have been trumpeting their capacity to win in November. Rarely has so much been made of so few votes. If neither could beat Wallace in Maryland or Michigan, some political observers wonder how either of them can hope to beat Mr. Nixon in the fall.

Asked that question yesterday, Frank Mankiewicz, McGovern's national political director, quipped: "The President is not nearly as attractive a candidate as Gov. Wallace."

In a more serious vein, he attributed the fragmentation of the Democratic vote to the conflicting demands on the candidates' energies, the sometimes emotional issues involved, such as bus-ing, and the multiplicity of candidates on the ballot in many of the primaries thus far.

Mankiewicz also took issue with the AFL-CIO theme that Wallace's third-party candidacy in 1968 cost Humphrey the election then. Organized labor has been hammering at it steadily this year, claiming that "a vote for Wallace is a vote for Nixon."

By that standard, the President would seem to be in excellent shape.

In dissent, Mankiewicz said he felt McGovern would get more Wallace votes in November than Mr. Nixon. "That Wallace vote in 1968

was an anti-establishment vote he maintained. Among Democratic voters who decided to "send them a message" by supporting Wallace this year, he said, McGovern was the leading second choice.

Humphrey's deputy campaign manager, James P. (Mike) Maloney Jr., also said he saw no cause for Democratic alarm in the heavy vote that Wallace has managed to roll up.

He said he felt Wallace's strength, especially in the 11-way Democratic race in Florida and what was essentially a three-man contest in Michigan, stemmed above all from the controversy over school busing.

Although he conceded that many of these votes might go to Nixon in the fall, Maloney said in a phone interview that the voters then will be far more inclined to make up their minds on pocketbook issues such as unemployment and inflation "which now favor the Democrats."

"Humphrey has not been demonstrating the vote power with the white, under-40 population that he used to get," Maloney said. But those voters, he maintained, are just as worried about economic issues as they are about busing.

"If the Democratic candidate in November, and I expect it to be Humphrey, can articulate to the white, under-40 population a great-

er sense of leadership to deal with economic issues in an enduring way, he'll be elected," Maloney said.

Tuesday's balloting in Michigan and Maryland, however, showed surprising slippages in several areas for both Humphrey and McGovern.

According to a poll for the Detroit News, McGovern, despite his reputation as the youth candidate, lagged behind Wallace among 18-to-24-year-old voters.

The Alabama governor won at least 41 per cent of the youth vote compared with 37 per cent for McGovern, the survey indicated. The poll had a margin of error of 4 per cent, but in the case of the youth vote, the calculations were said to have probably shortchanged Wallace more than McGovern.

There was still more comfort for McGovern in the Michigan results than — Humphrey, who ran a poor third, could hope to find. The Detroit News poll found 38 per cent of the Wallace voters listing Mr. Nixon as their second choice, 32 per cent naming McGovern, and only 8 per cent choosing Humphrey.

Douglas A. Fraser, chief political operative for the United Auto Workers, said Humphrey's 16 per cent showing in the state with its large black and heavy labor vote "borders on humiliation."